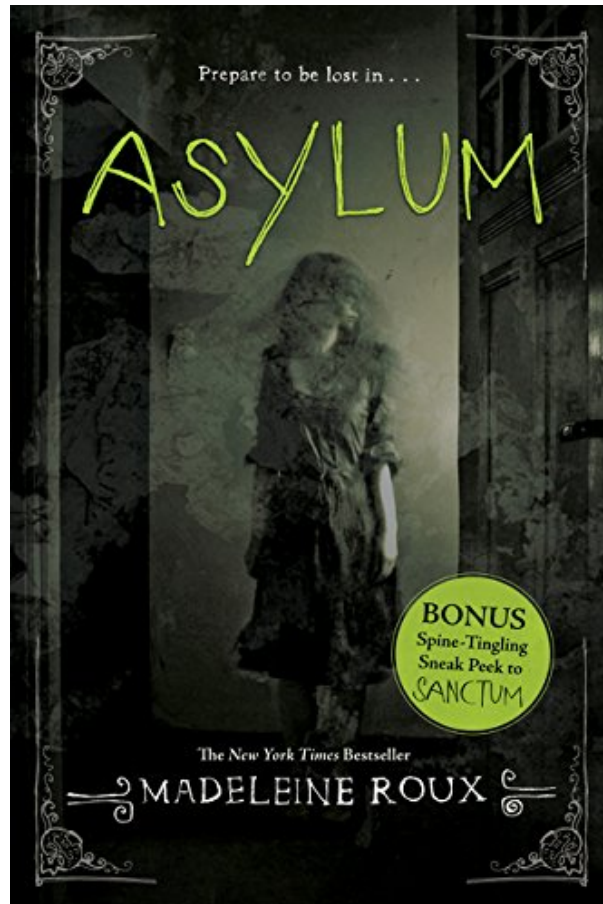
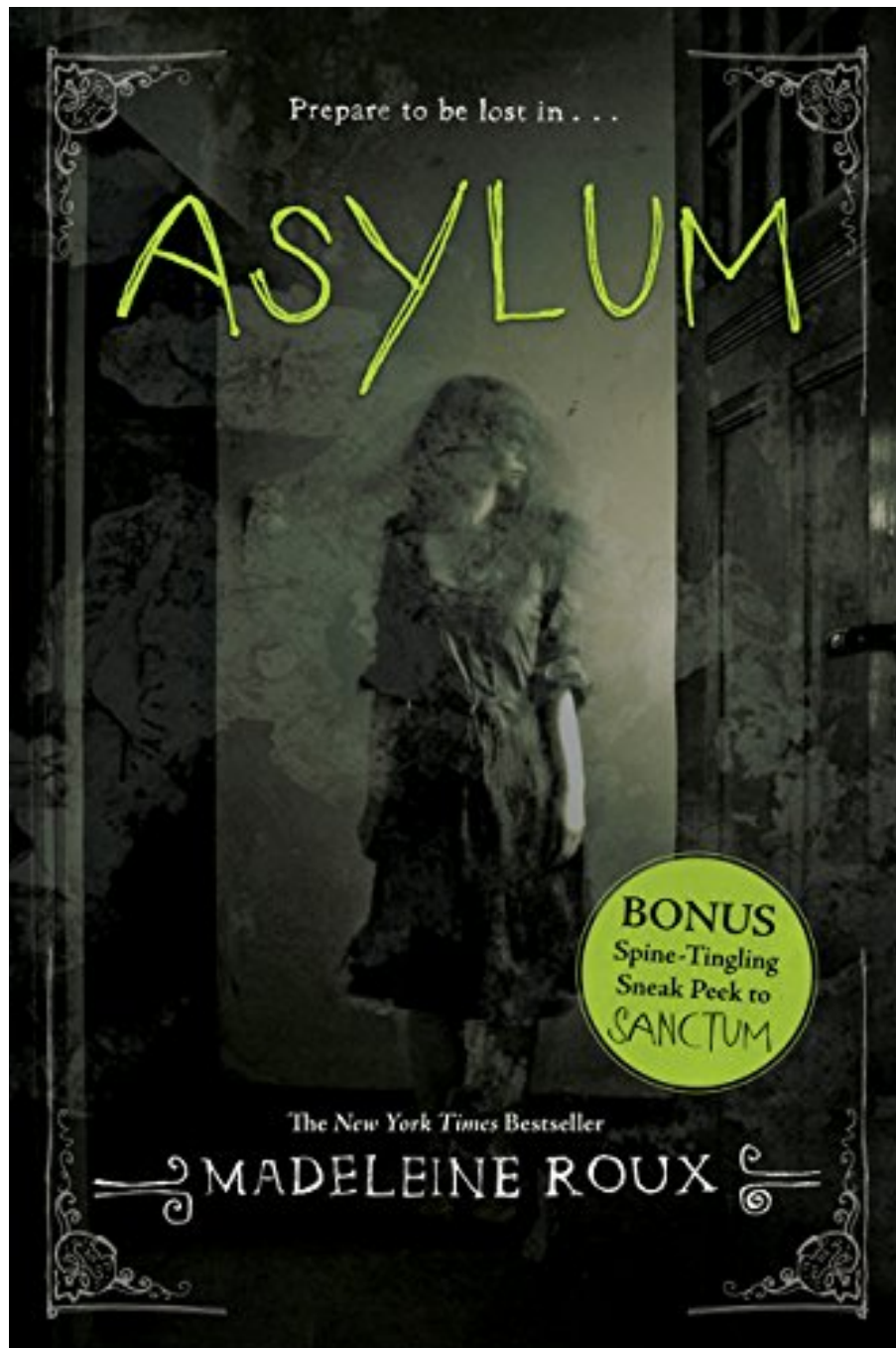


ASYLUM BY MADELEINE ROUX



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57 of 62 people found the following review helpful.

Creepy Campus Thriller

By jen719

I had heard wonderful things about this book and I was very impressed with *Asylum* from the very beginning. It is a dark, creepy and dramatic book about a young man who lives in a renovated mental hospital and finds that after mysterious circumstances that his dorm has developed a life of its own. Dan Crawford is a typical teenager who spends too much time involved in his studies of science and history but jumps at the opportunity to experience college life at the prestigious New Hampshire College prep program for the summer. He finds that the school was just what he was looking for and immediately starts to make friends with fellow students, Abby and Jordan. One night, they decide to investigate the abandoned basement of their dorm that used to be Brookline's main office and holds case files of the asylum's infamous residents. After their midnight excursion, strange things start to happen with no logical explanation and Dan finds that some secrets should have stayed locked away in Brookline's abandoned rooms.

Madeline Roux's *Asylum* is a haunting novel that provides a thrilling mystery and creepy locales that will keep you up at night. The pictures that are laced throughout the novel are a perfect addition to the story and will make the reader feel as though they are there with Dan and had me jumping at every noise that I heard. *Asylum* is a well-written novel that I know people will enjoy and is now one of my top books for 2013. I'm looking forward to reading more from Ms. Roux but it will be awhile before I sleep without the light on.

32 of 37 people found the following review helpful.

Review of *Asylum*

By Lydia

I am a pansy when it comes to scary stories. I will readily admit that. The book can be even not well written and I'll still be pansy. Add pictures into the mix and yeah, I'll be sleeping with my light on for at least 2-3 nights after finishing the book (and sometimes during if I just can't finish the book in one sitting). *Asylum* was one of those books - I was so tired and haunted by the images in the book that it was a two night read for me...and the result was I spent a few nights restless in my sleep due to having to have my light on.

I don't know about you, but the idea of an old mental asylum is only second to an abandoned carnival ground on a terror-ranking list. When I was in my late teens, I accompanied a boyfriend and my sister to an abandoned penitentiary in eastern Wyoming. It was Halloween and the workers had a blast filling each room with re-enactments of terrible things that may have happened. Asylum provoked the memory of that experience through the medium of the included photos. Not to mention - anytime I see a picture with eyes scratched out on it I get massive heebie-jeebies.

That's not to say that Roux wrote a story that could have creeped me out. In fact, without the addition of the pictures, I think I might have been a bit bored by the story. It was a pretty typical one - group of kids get locked up, essentially, in a creepy old building and start investigating its history. I got some massive Scooby Doo vibes from it. But Roux did take it a step darker, which was necessary, with the inclusion of the photos. The photos (and their credits are included at the back of the book) are a story in themselves. So much horror contained in each, it is worth picking up the book just to examine them.

I don't know of many kids that could handle the level of creepy that Asylum boasted - the photos might just have been a little over the top. But I leave that judgment up to the parents. For me, those photos were enough and I won't be able to get through a night in the near future without having that one little thought in the back of my mind that something might just happen once I click my light off for the night.

14 of 16 people found the following review helpful.

more for the younger reader

By Linda Bradley

Characters good, plot good, setting good, yet somehow Asylum feels like it was written for a young adult audience. It starts out strong, but ends up quite like a Nancy Drew mystery. I was somewhat disappointed.

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out there?

MR: It comes from Neil Gaiman and is infuriatingly straightforward and simple. “How do you do it? You do it. You write. You finish what you write.” And it’s true. As I’m sure you know, there’s no magic button. Sometimes you can’t write a sentence and other times you can’t stop, but just sitting down and making yourself do it is the key. You have to practice. You have to do the work, over and over. He also has another great piece of advice somewhere (I’m an unabashed Neil fangirl, I can’t help it) about getting out and living life, and not feeling upset or pressured if you don’t have a huge well of experience to draw on. The best inspiration comes from falling in love, falling out of it, getting your heart broken, just being present and showing up, you know? You won’t have anything to draw from if you guard yourself too closely. You have to risk life changing you in order to have something there to write about.

HB: What’s next from the shadowed mind of Madeleine Roux? What are you working on, and when can I have it? :)

MR: I’m notorious for starting new projects and then abandoning them, but I’ve had a gritty YA fantasy series cooking in my head for a while now. I’ve been taking down tons of notes for it and I’ve even started a few chapters, so right now I hope that has wings and takes off. You can have it the second I manage to get it all down!

From Publishers Weekly

Horror author Roux makes a strong YA debut with this creepy tale of a haunted asylum and the teenagers who are drawn to it. When Dan Crawford attends a summer program at New Hampshire College, he ends up housed in Brookline, a former asylum now being turned into a dorm. Along with fellow students Abby and Jordan, he starts exploring the basement of the dorm, where (conveniently) old records are stored. As they investigate, the students are plagued by horrifying dreams, and Dan starts to have blackouts, discovering strange unsent texts and emails and learning about conversations that he doesn’t remember. Students are being attacked in the dorms, and as Dan begins to unravel his own ties to the asylum, he wonders if he might be responsible for the crimes. Roux (aided by unsettling photo illustrations of abandoned asylums and tormented patients) creates an entertaining and occasionally brutal horror story that reveals the enduring impact of buried trauma and terror on a place. Open questions at the end invite a sequel, though there’s also a good sense of closure. Ages 14-up. Agent: Kate McKean, Howard Morhaim Literary Agency.

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Dan is thrilled to be spending the summer before his senior year at the New Hampshire College Prep program, where he’ll have a chance to meet other studious teenagers. He doesn’t mind that his dorm, Brookline, was once an asylum for the criminally insane. In fact, Dan is curious about the institution’s history and begins exploring Brookline’s old passageways at night. At first, Dan and his best friends at NHCP, Abby and Jordan, think it’s fun to sneak around in the dark and look at old patient records, but soon the things they find begin to frighten them. Dan starts receiving ominous notes, and he is plagued by nightmares in which he sees Brookline as if he were really there, all those years ago. When people start dying, Dan is convinced that the killer’s identity is buried in his dorm’s darkest history and that his own strange connection to the institution may be the key to stopping the murders. Eerie black-and-white pictures throughout the book add to the creep factor of this story, but unfortunately many images are redundant photographs of Dan’s notes, while others seem unrelated to the text. The plot drives forward too quickly, with some circumstances and events feeling forced. Dan meets Abby and Jordan on his first day, for instance, and within hours they carry on with the rapport of lifelong friends. Mystery lovers will be disappointed with the lack of answers and explanations here. Hand this one to horror fans who don’t mind a few loose ends.—Liz Overberg, Darlington School, Rome, GA

As we specified previously, the innovation helps us to constantly realize that life will certainly be constantly simpler. Reading publication *Asylum By Madeleine Roux* habit is likewise one of the perks to obtain today. Why? Innovation can be used to supply guide *Asylum By Madeleine Roux* in only soft data system that could be opened every time you really want as well as everywhere you require without bringing this *Asylum By Madeleine Roux* prints in your hand.